

From: [Stephen Tzhone](#)
To: [Carlos Sanchez](#)
Cc: [Barbara Nann/R6/USEPA/US@EPA](#); [Robert Werner/R6/USEPA/US@EPA](#); [mcedilot@tceq.state.tx.us](#); [Susan Webster](#); [Beverly Negri](#); [Brenda Cook](#); [Chris Petersen](#); [Jon Rauscher](#); [Donald Williams](#)
Subject: Re: Fw: McGinnis Pits, West Galveston Bay/inquiry from sierra club
Date: 08/12/2008 12:42 PM
Attachments: [CERCLIS_TXD98069703.pdf](#)

Hi Carlos,

Here's the information from checks with legal, enforcement, TCEQ, and site assessment.

Basically, the inquiry from Mr. Muhich refers to a site identified by EPA as the McGinnes Industrial Maintenance Co (EPA ID:TXD980697031) and by TCEQ as the Halls Bayou Ranch Sludge Management Facility (TX Solid Waste Registration Number 37351).

This site appears to have similar PRPs as the San Jacinto River Waste Pits site, but is considered separate, not on the NPL, and is currently in the Site Assessment stage (see attached).



[CERCLIS_TXD98069703.pdf](#)

My recommendation is for Site Assessment to contact either Mr. Muhich and/or Mayor Hensley and let them know the status of the inquired site and obtain information for SI completion, if needed.

Stephen L. Tzhone
Superfund Remedial Project Manager
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▼ [Carlos Sanchez/R6/USEPA/US](#)

**Carlos
Sanchez/R6/USEPA/US**

08/12/2008 08:22 AM

To: Susan Webster/R6/USEPA/US@EPA

cc: Beverly Negri/R6/USEPA/US@EPA, Brenda Cook/R6/USEPA/US@EPA, Chris Petersen/R6/USEPA/US@EPA, Jon Rauscher/R6/USEPA/US@EPA, Stephen Tzhone/R6/USEPA/US@EPA, Donald Williams/R6/USEPA/US@EPA

Subject: Re: Fw: McGinnis Pits, West Galveston Bay/inquiry from sierra club 

Thanks Susan,
I will have Stephen check on this or he can check with TCEQ and see if they are aware of this disposal site. CAS

Carlos A. Sanchez

Remedial Project Manager
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▼ Susan Webster/R6/USEPA/US

**Susan
Webster/R6/USEPA/US**

08/11/2008 05:12 PM

To Carlos Sanchez/R6/USEPA/US@EPA, Jon
Rauscher/R6/USEPA/US@EPA
cc Brenda Cook/R6/USEPA/US, Stephen
Tzhone/R6/USEPA/US@EPA, Chris
Petersen/R6/USEPA/US@EPA, Beverly
Negri/R6/USEPA/US@EPA
Subject Fw: McGinnis Pits, West Galveston Bay/inquiry from
sierra club

I am going to ask one of you to return this call. When I was in site assmt I believe Brenda looked at this site also. Let me know who returns the call so I can close the loop. tx

----- Forwarded by Susan Webster/R6/USEPA/US on 08/11/2008 05:08 PM -----

MarkMuhich
<markmuhich@peoplepc.com>

08/11/2008 04:32 PM

Please respond to
MarkMuhich <markmuhich@peoplepc.com>

To Susan Webster/R6/USEPA/US@EPA
cc
Subject McGinnis Pits, West Galveston Bay

Hello, Susan.

I just left an e-mail message on your phone answering machine concerning the industrial waste pits once operated by the McGinnis company. These pits were used to dispose of waste paper fines from the Champion Paper Corp. in Houston, and were barged to the West Galveston Bay site by the Gulf Coast Waste Disposal Authority.

These pits must be very similar to the McGinnis Pits located north of the Houston Ship Channel along the San Jacinto River. Recent reports on the Houston Chronicle and the Galveston County Daily News indicated that the San Jacinto McGinnis Pits have been declared a Superfund site, and that EPA has sent formal notification to the parties involved in producing, shipping and storing their industrial wastes there, that they may be financial liable for clean up of the site.

As these San Jacinto Pits may be related to the elevated pcb and dioxin levels in the Houston Ship Channel, which has produced fishing advisories from the Texas Department of Health, and as TDH has recently issued similar fishing advisories for West Galveston Bay, I would encourage EPA and your department to rigorously inspect the McGinnis Pits on West Galveston Bay to determine if they contribute to the dioxin and pcb loads in Galveston Bay trout and catfish.

A knowledgeable person to contact would be former Tiki Island Mayor, Richard Hensley. Richard may be reached by phone at 409 935 6676.

Of course I would be glad to facilitate any further investigation by EPA into this potentially damaging industrial site on Galveston Bay.

Thank you,

Mark Muhich, Sierra Club Galveston Group
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